GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3133
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2000
PROMOTION OF TRADE
HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to promote trade with USA, Russia, China and Japan;

(b) if so, whether any MOUs have been signed with the above countries for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement these MOUs?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) to (d) ; Yes Sir. The government of India has signed MOUs with USA, Russia and China. The government has not signed MOU with Japan in the recent past. The government has taken the following steps to promote trade with these countries :-

(i) After signing of MoU on Indo-US Commerce Dialogue, as a follow-up action, discussions were held with US during the visit of Commerce Secretary and high level delegation led by Prime Minister to USA in the month of July and September, 2000. During discussions, recommendations on the various working groups were made on chemical, petrochemicals pharmaceuticals, communication, information technology, financial services, power and fuel supply, transportation and trade and investment FICCI is now working on these recommendations of the working groups.

(ii) Government of India endeavours to improve and expand Trade with China and Japan. The various steps taken in this direction include exchange of delegations, holding of Joint Business Council meetings, exchange of information, participation in fairs and exhibitions, etc.

(iii) A number of steps for expanding trade with the Russian Federation have been taken by the government which include :-

- promotion of dialogue with the Russian side including discussions at the highest level;

- constant review of bilateral trade through the Joint Commission mechanism with its Working Groups on trade and Economic cooperation and on Pharmaceuticals Sub-Group on Transport and Sub-Group on banking and financial Matters;

- facilitating through bilateral consultations, the rapid utilisation in the form of export of goods and services of debt owed to Russia;

- Promotion of direct business contacts through exchange of delegations, Joint Business Councils, holding of exhibitions., participation in fairs etc.